Natural Resources Conservation Service

Application Ranking Summary

Big Creek Watershed Priority Area

Program:	Ranking Date:	Application Number:
Ranking Tool: Big Creek Watershed Priority Area		**Applicant:**
Final Ranking Score:		**Address:**
Planner:		**Telephone:**
Farm Location:		

National Priorities Addressed

Issue Questions	Responses
If the application is for development of a Conservation Activity Plan (CAP), the agency will assign significant ranking priority and conservation benefit by answering "Yes" to the following question. Answering "Yes" to question 1a will result in the application being awarded the maximum amount of points that can be earned for the national priority category.	
1. a. Is the program application to support the development of a Conservation Activity Plan (CAP)? If answer is "Yes", do not answer any other national level questions. If answer is "No", proceed with evaluation to address the remaining questions in this section.	Yes O or No O
Water Quality Degradation – Will the proposed project improve water quality by: (select all that apply)	
2. a. Implementing the practices in a Comprehensive Nutrient Management Plan (CNMP)?	Yes O or No O
2. b. Implementing the practices in a Nutrient Management Plan (NMP)?	Yes O or No O
2. c. Reducing impacts from sediment, nutrients, salinity, or pesticides on land adjoining a designated "impaired water body" (TMDL, 303d listed waterbody, or other State designation)?	Yes O or No O
2. d. Reducing the impacts from sediment, nutrients, salinity, or pesticides in a "non-impaired water body"?	Yes O or No O
2. e. Implementing practices that improve water quality through animal mortality and carcass management?	Yes O or No O
Water Conservation – Will the proposed project conserve water by: (select all that apply)	
3. a. Implementing irrigation practices that reduce aquifer overdraft.	Yes O or No O
3. b. Implementing irrigation practices that reduce on-farm water use?	Yes O or No O
3. c.Implementing practices in an area where the applicant participates in a geographically established or watershed-wide project?	Yes O or No O
3. d. Implementing practices that reduce on-farm water use as a result of changing to crops with lower water consumptive use, the rotation of crops, or the modification of cultural operations?	Yes O or No O
Air Quality - Will the proposed project improve air quality by: (select all that apply)	
4. a. Meeting on-farm regulatory requirements relating to air quality or proactively avoid the need for regulatory measures?	Yes O or No O
4. b. Implementing practices that reduce on-farm emissions of particulate matter (PM2.5, PM10)?	Yes O or No O
4. c.Implementing practices that reduce on-farm generated greenhouse gases such as carbon dioxide (CO2), methane (CH4), and nitrous oxide (N2O)?	Yes O or No O
4. d. Implementing practices that increase on-farm carbon sequestration?	Yes O or No O
Soil Health:– Will the proposed project improve soil health by: (select all that apply)	
5. a. Reduce erosion to tolerable limits (Soil "T")?	Yes O or No O
5. b.Increasing organic matter and carbon content, and improving soil tilth and structure?	Yes O or No O
Wildlife Habitat – Will the proposed project improve wildlife habitat by: (select all that apply)	
6. a. Implementing practices benefitting threatened and endangered, at-risk, candidate, or species of concern.	Yes O or No O
6. b. Implementing practices that retain wildlife and plant habitat on land exiting the Conservation	Yes O or No O

Reserve Program (CRP) or other set-aside program?	
6. c. Implementing practices benefitting honey bee populations or other pollinators?	Yes O or No O
6. d. Implementing land-based practices that improve habitat for aquatic wildlife?	Yes O or No O
Plant and Animal Communities: Will the proposed project improve plant and animal communities by: (select all that apply)	
7. a. Implementing practices that result in the management control of noxious or invasive plant species on non-cropland?	Yes O or No O
7. b. Implementing practice in an Integrated Pest Management Plan (IPM)?	Yes O or No O
Energy Conservation– Will the proposed project reduce energy use by: (select all that apply)	
8. a. Reducing on-farm energy consumption?	Yes O or No O
8. b. Implementing practice(s) identified in an approved AgEMP or energy audit, which meet ASABE S612 criteria?	Yes O or No O
Business Lines – Will the practices to be scheduled in the "EQIP Plan of Operations" result in:	
9. a. Enhancement of existing conservation practice(s) or conservation systems already in place at the time the application is received?	Yes O or No O

State Issues Addressed

Issue Questions	Responses
1. Will field borders, buffers, or cropland conversion to permanent vegetation practices be implemented OR will other practices be implemented that directly benefit threatened, endangered and/or at-risk wildlife species (plant or animal) as identified by NRCS (Area Biologist), TN Wildlife Resources Agency (TWRA) and/or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS)?	Yes O or No O
2. Does this application help the producer implement a conservation system that has at least one identified resource concern?	Yes O or No O
3. Does this application contain at least one (1) practice that reduces erosion on highly erodible fields or treats gullied areas?	Yes O or No O
4. Will the length of the contract be two (2) years or less?	Yes O or No O
5. Will practices that directly benefit a stream on the 303(d) list (2012 or later version) be implemented as a result of this application?	Yes O or No O
6. Will the practice(s) be applied or implemented within 30 days of contract approval?	Yes O or No O
7. Does the applicant meet the definition of Limited Resource Farmer (http://www.lrftool.sc.egov.usda.gov/)?	Yes O or No O
8. Has the applicant ever had an EQIP contract terminated within the participants control in the last 5 years OR has applicant ever destroyed or failed to maintain a practice for its designated life span (NRCS technical errors excluded as determined by the Area Conservationist)?	Yes O or No O

Local Issues Addressed

Issue Questions	Responses
Will practices be installed that help solve any of the following Resource Concerns to reduce runoff and/or improve Soil Health?	
1. a. Water Quality Degradation - Excess Sediment in surface water	Yes O or No O
1. b. Excess Water - Runoff, Flooding, or Ponding	Yes O or No O
1. c. Soil Quality Degradation - Compaction.	Yes O or No O
Will any of these practices listed be constructed to help increase runoff storage?	
2. a. 410-Grade Stabilization Structure	Yes O or No O
2. b. 638- Water and Sediment Control Basin	Yes O or No O
2. c. Any other water storage structure	Yes O or No O
Will practices be installed that help solve any of the following Resource Concerns to reduce the amount of sediment and/or nutrients being removed by water?	
3. a. Soil Erosion - Classic Gully Erosion; Ephemeral Gully Erosion; Sheet and Rill Erosion; Streambank, Shoreline, Water Conveyance Channels	Yes O or No O

3. b. Water Quality Degradation - Excessive Sediment in Surface Water	Yes O or No O
3. c. Water Quality Degradation - Nutrients in Surface Water	Yes O or No O
Will any of the designated practices listed be installed that help solve Livestock Production Limitation Resource Concerns?	
4. a. Will any of the following practices be installed to address documented Livestock Production Limitation Resource Concerns? Access Control, Critical Area Planting, Fence, Forage and Biomass Planting, Heavy Use Area Protection, Livestock Pipeline, Nutrient Management, Pond, Prescribed Grazing, Pumping Plant, Stream Crossing, Structure for Water Control, Tree/Shrub Establishment, Water Well, Watering Facility	Yes O or No O

Land Use:

Resource Concerns	Practices

Ranking Score

Efficiency:
Local Issues:
State Issues:
National Issues:
Final Ranking Score:

This ranking report is for your information. It does not in any way guarantee funding. When funding becomes available, you will be notified if your application is selected for funding. Some changes to the application may be required before a final contract is awarded.

Notes:

NRCS Representative:	Applicant Signature Not Required on this report for Contract Development unless required by State policy:
Signature Date:	**Signature Date:**